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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

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FINAL REPORT
SURVEYS AND INVESTIGATIONS PROJECTS
AS REQUIRED BY
FEDERAL AID IN WILDLIFE RESTORATION ACT

ILLINOIS

FEDERAL AID PROJECT NO. W-112-R-08 (1998)

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STUDY 101.1 Hunter Harvest Survey

1997 Hunter Harvest Survey

The 1997 Hunter Harvest Survey collected information on annual harvest of game species and hunter attitudes toward hunting seasons in Illinois. A total of 3,230 (62%) of hunters surveyed responded. A copy of the final report is included.

1998 Hunter Harvest Survey

The 1998 Hunter Harvest Survey also collected harvest information and hunter attitudes on a variety of issues facing Illinois hunters. A total of 3,512 (72%) of hunters surveyed responded. A copy of the final report is enclosed.

STUDY 101.2 Furbearer Trapping Survey

1997 Fur Trapping Survey

A survey of trappers in Illinois was conducted following the 1997 trapping season, and 689 (80%) trappers surveyed responded. A copy of the final report is included.

1998 Fur Trapping Survey

The 1998 Furbearer Trapping Survey was conducted during the spring 1999. A total of 670 (77%) of the trappers surveyed responded. The report for this study is under DNR review at this time.

STUDY 101.3 Waterfowl Hunter Survey

1997 Waterfowl Hunter Survey

A total of 2,708 (70%) waterfowl hunters returned self-administered mail surveys. A copy of the final draft report is enclosed.

1998 Waterfowl Hunter Survey

A self-administered, return-mail survey was sent to Illinois waterfowl hunters during early spring 1999. A total of 2,264 (41%) usable responses were received. The report for this study is currently under DNR review.

Lake Shelbyville Waterfowl Hunter Survey

A total of 723 waterfowl hunters who hunted the Lake Shelbyville Fish and Wildlife Management Area were surveyed to determine their hunting activities. Of these, 537 (74%) responded with complete questionnaires. The final draft report is included.

Snow Goose Hunter Survey

Waterfowl hunters throughout the state of Illinois were surveyed via self-administered mail survey to determine their participation in the special conservation action on snow geese held during spring 1999. A total of 71% of the hunters surveyed responded, and these hunters indicated a participation rate of 7%. The final report is included with this report.

Carlyle Lake Waterfowl Hunter Survey

A mail survey of waterfowl hunters from Carlyle Lake was conducted during spring 1999 to assess hunter attitudes toward opening the waterfowl rest area to public hunting. Of the 726 survey questionnaires mailed, 455 (63%) were received. A copy of the final draft of this report is included.

STUDY 101.4 Upland Game Hunter Survey

Dove Hunter Survey

Dove hunters in Illinois were asked to participate in a self-administered mail survey during 1997 to determine participation in and attitudes toward dove hunting seasons and regulations. Of the 3,020 hunters contacted 1,845 (61%) responded. The final draft report is included.

Sampling Rates and Confidence Intervals for Estimating Hunting Activity and Wildlife Harvest on a Public Area in Illinois

A study of small game, deer, and turkey hunters who completed permit cards was conducted during spring 1997 to determine the feasibility of using random samples of hunter permit cards to assess harvest for a public hunting area (Site M) in Illinois. Confidence intervals varied with sample size. The enclosed report includes recommendations for using the cards to determine harvest and days afield.

Woodcock Hunter Survey

A survey of woodcock hunters derived from HIP registry was conducted during winter 1999. A total of 1,251 hunters were contacted, with complete questionnaires received from 866 (70%). The report for this project is enclosed.

STUDY 101.5 Forest Game Hunter Survey

Spring Turkey Hunter Survey

Hunters participating in the 1998 spring turkey season were contacted via self-administered mail survey to determine hunter participation, harvest, and attitudes toward spring turkey hunting. The report for this project is included.

Fur Hunter Survey

Hunters in Illinois were mailed a self-administered questionnaire during spring 1999 to assess hunter participation and harvest in hunting furbearers. A total of 5,675 hunters were contacted, and completed questionnaires were received from 3,378 (60%). The report for this project is complete at this time.

STUDY 102.1 Duck Shot Ingestion Survey

In an effort to determine the extent to which nontoxic shot has replaced toxic (lead) shot in waterfowl, gizzards were collected from 16,651 ducks harvested in the Mississippi flyway during 1996 and 1997 waterfowl seasons. The completed report for this project is included.